

(Washington, DC)— Congresswoman Gwen Moore (D-Wisc.) commented on today's historic vote on H.R. 3962, The Affordable Health Care for America Act, which passed the House of Representatives 220-215. The bill reforms the nation's health insurance system to increase access to affordable, quality health care for all Americans.

"With the passage of the House version of health insurance reform legislation, we recognize the government has a moral responsibility to make sure its citizens have access to quality and affordable health care," Congresswoman Moore said. "The health of a country's population is absolutely critical to its productivity, and it's about time that the United States got in the game.

"In my district, the Affordable Health Care for America Act will improve employer-based coverage for 354,000 residents, and provide credits to help pay for coverage to up to 192,000 households. This bill will improve Medicare for 87,000 beneficiaries, including closing the prescription drug donut hole for 6,200 seniors. It will allow 14,600 small businesses to obtain affordable health care coverage and provide tax credits to help reduce health insurance costs for up to 12,300 small businesses.

"This legislation will create a right to health care that many Americans have never had before, but it also creates a responsibility that all Americans get insurance so that everyone has some skin in the game. At some point, everyone in America accesses the health care system, and whether or not they have insurance, that care is not free. This bill brings 96 percent of Americans into the health care system – 36 million additional people. This is nothing short of transformational."

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